

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (canceled)

11. (new) A thermal pressure die in combination with a trim cover assembly for automotive seat, said thermal pressure die being designed to heat and press said trim cover assembly and comprising:

a first die means including an uneven die surface;

a second die means including an uneven die surface region which corresponds to said uneven die surface of said first die means, said second die means being normally positioned away from said first die means to allow said trim cover assembly to be placed between said first and second die means, and being also movable toward said first die means so as to cause the uneven die surface of the former to engage the uneven die surface region of the latter, thereby giving a pressure and heat to said trim cover assembly placed between the first and second die means; and

a protection means having an elastic and a heat insulation property, said protection means being fixedly

arranged on either of said uneven die surface of said first die means and said uneven die surface of said second die means so as to reduce great impact and heat affection being given to local areas of said trim cover assembly during engagement of said first die means with said second die means which gives the pressure and heat to the trim cover assembly.

12. (new) The thermal pressure die as defined in claim 11, wherein said protection means comprises a protection element in a sheet form, which is fixedly attached on said uneven die surface.

13. (new) The thermal pressure die as defined in claim 11, wherein said trim cover assembly has an outer surface formed with solid or geometric decorative patterns in the outer surface thereof, and said outer surface of the trim cover assembly is contacted with said protection means.

14. (new) The thermal pressure die according to claim 12, wherein said protection element is formed from urethane foam material.

15. (new) The thermal pressure die according to claim 14, wherein said urethane foam material is in form of one unitary sheet having about 2 mm thickness.

16. (new) The thermal pressure die as defined in claim 11, wherein a projection is so formed on said uneven die surface as to surround a part of said uneven die surface, said projection being adapted to form a decorative groove in said trim cover assembly, and wherein said protection means is provided on said part of said uneven die surface surrounded by said projection.

17. (new) A thermal pressure die in combination with a trim cover assembly for automotive seat, said thermal pressure die being designed to heat and press said trim cover assembly and comprising:

a first die means including an uneven die surface;

a second die means on which said foam cushion member is to be placed, wherein said foam cushion member has an uneven surface corresponding in contour to said uneven die surface;

said first die means being normally positioned away from second die means to allow said trim cover assembly to be placed between said first and second die means, and being also movable toward the second die means in which said foam cushion member is placed, so as to bring the uneven die surface of the first die means to engagement with the uneven die surface of said foam cushion member, thereby giving a pressure and heat

to both said trim cover assembly and said foam cushion member;
and

a protection means of elastic and heat insulation property, said protection means being fixedly arranged on the uneven die surface of said first die means so as to reduce great impact and heat affection being given to local areas of said trim cover assembly and said foam cushion member during engagement of said first die means with said second die means which gives the pressure and heat to both said trim cover assembly and said foam cushion member.

18. (new) The thermal pressure die as defined in claim 17, wherein said trim cover assembly has an outer surface formed with solid or geometric decorative patters in the outer surface thereof, and said outer surface of the trim cover assembly is contacted with said protection means.

19. (new) The thermal pressure die as defined in claim 17, wherein a projection is so formed on said uneven die surface of said first die means as to surround a par of said uneven die surface, said projection being adapted to form a decorative groove in both of said trim cover assembly and said foam cushion member, and wherein said protection means is provided on said part of said uneven die surface surrounded by said projection.